

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	USSR (Lithuanian SSR)	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
SUBJECT	Port of Klaipeda	DATE DISTR.	19 March 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1X

1. In Klaipeda harbor a radio station with two masts was observed. The station could not be more exactly placed. The harbor area was enclosed by a high wall and in some places by a fence. There were two guarded entrances. Informant noticed 12 cranes alongside the wharves in the harbor. In the winter harbor there were three cranes with ~~gansens~~ (goose beaks). By the southern ballast wharf there were two bridge cranes, probably coal cranes. The remaining cranes were not identified. Within the shipyard a big, open ship-building area by a floating dock was noticed. Informant could see that persons were working at the shipyard.
2. No naval craft were observed in the harbor except for the marine tug-boat MB 25, which was lying in the winter harbor. There were also three Soviet cargo steamers in the winter harbor. In the canal (river) there was a three-masted schooner, MERIDIAN, as well as a fishing boat and a half-sunken barge. In the citadel harbor there was a barge and an excavating machine.
3. There were many persons moving about on the streets. Generally the population was ragged and dirty, but they seemed to be well-fed. Informant noticed a lack of happy faces and was depressed by the gloomy atmosphere. In the main street there were quite a few stores, including food stores and a couple of clothing stores. There were long lines in front of the stores at all times. In these lines there were civilian men and women, and soldiers. Few children were seen and no toy stores. There were approximately an equal number of soldiers and civilians on the streets.
4. The soldiers were usually seen in gray or green coats, and their uniforms were usually well-kept. Soldiers armed with machine guns were observed, but it was informant's impression that they were not patrols. As a whole the soldiers' clothing was much better than that of the civilian population. Informant saw two groups of barracks in the city. One was west of the Hotel Victoria, and the other was in the former barracks area in the north end of the city.

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Most of the soldiers observed had either red or green trimmings on their shoulder loops.

5. Informant assumed that somewhere in the harbor area there were marine barracks because he noticed about 120 young marines in march formation. They had the Baltic Fleet insignia on their shoulder loops.
6. One night informant observed a military transport consisting of about 25 covered trucks and two guns. On the railway he saw a train consisting of 50 cars, of which five were trucks. On four of these there were 15 cm. guns. The guns could not be described, but informant noticed an unusually long tail (sic). The train was guarded by soldiers with gray coats and fur hats.
7. There were large bombed areas in the city and no signs of reconstruction.

1. **Comment.** This paragraph is given as it was received. It is possible that informant saw five railcars carrying trucks and four railcars carrying 15cm. (150mm.?) guns.

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Comment. The part of the harbor that informant had a chance to see seems completely intact and the cranes seem to be in order. They were not all being used during the observation time of about 1/2 hour. It does not seem that there are many changes in the harbor since 1949-50, but the number of cranes has increased from seven or eight to 12. The shipyard was difficult to observe, and the floating dock mentioned in the report seems a little doubtful. However, the observation about the big ship-construction area is correct. From these observations, it seems that the harbor does not play a very important role as a navy base. Informant could not give any information on such matters as depth and warehouses.

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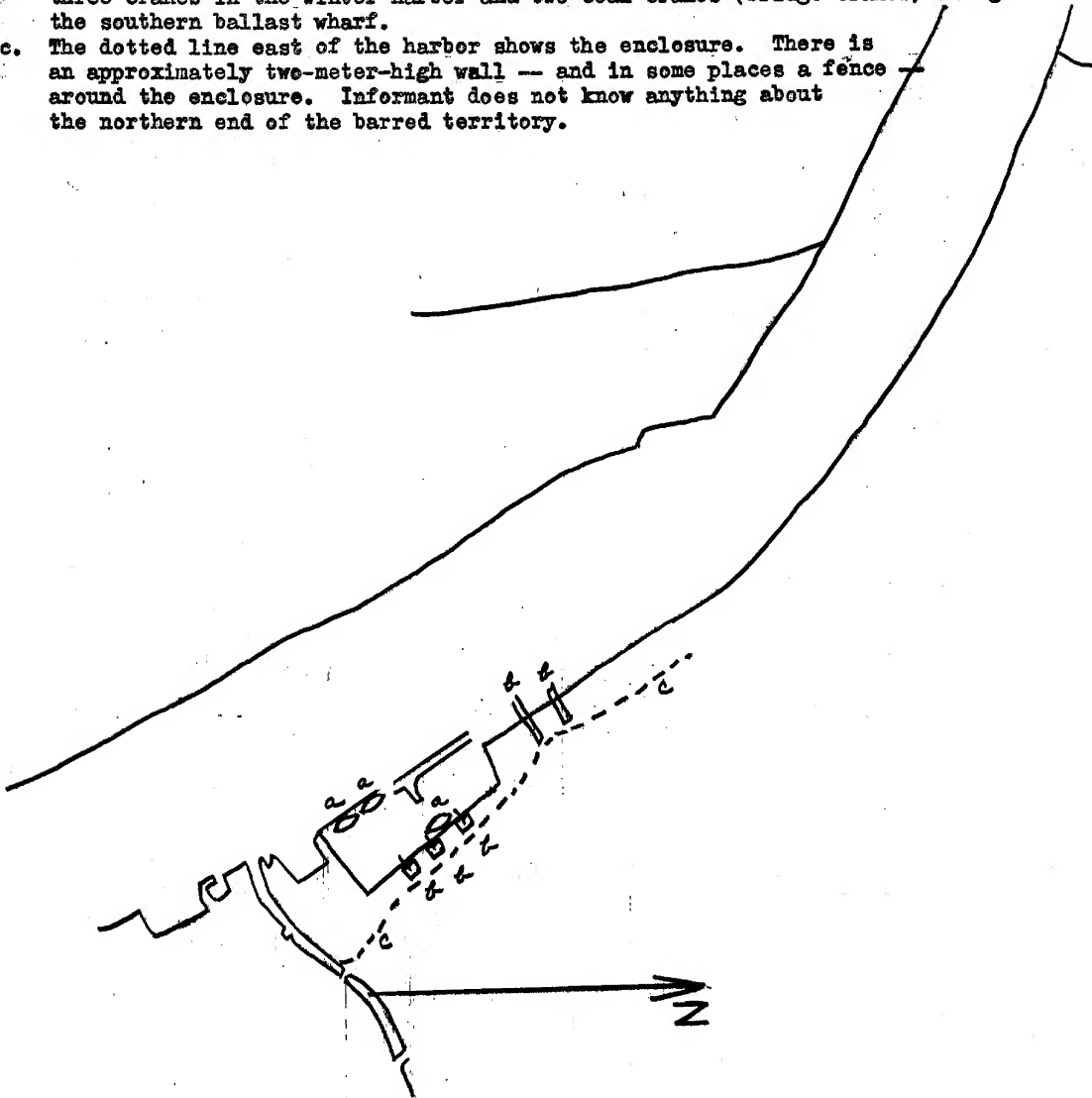
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Klaipeda harbor in [REDACTED] 1952:

- a. The three cargo steamers are located as informant saw them. He could not give the names of the steamers.
- b. Only five of the 12 observed cranes can be placed on this drawing. There are three cranes in the winter harbor and two coal cranes (bridge cranes) along the southern ballast wharf.
- c. The dotted line east of the harbor shows the enclosure. There is an approximately two-meter-high wall -- and in some places a fence -- around the enclosure. Informant does not know anything about the northern end of the barred territory.



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